

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) announced that the U.S. House of Representatives has approved a funding bill that includes a total of \$2,825,000 for two North Worcester County economic development projects.

Olver secured the funding in the FY10 Transportation and Housing (THUD) Appropriations Bill, which the House passed on July 23, 2009. Olver is chairman of THUD and worked to secure the funding. The Senate must still approve its appropriations bill and then both chambers will have to approve a reconciled bill before it goes to the president's desk to be signed into law.

**\$2.5 million for North Leominster Parking Garage** The Montachusett Regional Transit Authority will expand the parking facilities at their commuter rail station in N. Leominster, MA. The new station will increase the capacity of the current parking lot by 250% with the construction of a three story garage. The new structure will benefit the surrounding communities and facilitate the use of the station by increasing the number of persons who can access rail, bus, and other modes of service. "We must make sure that mass transit systems are completely thought through" Congressman John Olver said. "It isn't enough to simply help people move from place to place; we need to make these stations accessible to make them useful to the public."

***For additional information, please contact:***

Mohammed H. Khan, Administrator, 978-345-7711 ext 2233

**\$250,000 for Fitchburg Industrial Park** The Fitchburg Industrial park complex will provide the region with a significant revenue center. By developing the 24 acres west of Fitchburg through grading and access improvements we can see economic benefits to the city. The development of this land into pad ready industrial sites will significantly enhance the ability to new industry and business to build their infrastructure on it. Cong  
ressman John Olver said, "Our small investment in the preparation of this land creates the incentive for businesses to make large investments of infrastructure and jobs at this site. Located by rail lines and Route 2, the new industrial park will bring economic benefits to the entire region."

***For additional information, please contact:***

David J. Streb, 978-345-1018 x18

\$75,000 for North Quabbin Woods Support Economic Development in the North Quabbin Region

North Quabbin Woods will use this funding to expand their promotional activities highlighting ecotourism, agriculture, and local arts and culture in the North Quabbin. This project will cultivate a thriving creative and tourism economy that provides opportunities for small-scale production, utilizes increasing quantities of locally harvested timber, and complements the region's scenic and conserved forests and farms.

"The North Quabbin has been hit hard by the loss of manufacturing jobs," Congressman John Olver said.

"North Quabbin Woods has recognized an opportunity for economic growth in the region by promoting the area's wealth of talented artisans and recreation and forestry resources. This funding will help the organization take their promotional efforts to the next level."

North Quabbin Woods is a leading organization for economic revitalization of the scenic North Quabbin region. Since 2001, North Quabbin Woods has promoted visitor information, area artisans, local lumber and custom woodworking.

***please contact:***

978-544-3332

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***For additional information,***

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